

ON A TRILOBITE FROM REEFTON, NEW ZEALAND,
NEW TO AUSTRALASIA.

BY PROFESSOR F. W. HUTTON, F.G.S.

I have obtained from Mr. R. Helms of Greymouth, a very fine Trilobite belonging to the genus *Homalonotus*, which was found near Reefton, and, as it appears to be new to New Zealand, I give a description of it. The specimen is rolled up, and the anterior portion of the cephalic shield, as well as the posterior end of the pygidium are absent. It is filled with brown chert which cannot be scratched with a knife, but the exoskeleton is black.

The body is elongate, tubercled, broadest at the base of the cephalic-shield thence gradually tapering backwards to a point. The greatest breadth is 3·25 inches, and the total length was probably about eight inches or rather more.

Cephalic-Shield.—The apex is gone, the posterior angles are broken and the surface of the glabellum and fixed cheeks is much rubbed, so that the description of this part is necessarily deficient. The shield itself is broadly triangular, the ratio of length to breadth being about 2 : 3. The glabellum is distinctly lobed, but the surface is entirely rubbed away. The cheeks are inflated and bend suddenly down outside the eyes, the exterior margins are also incurved; the surface is covered with scattered granules which are placed more closely together on the free cheeks and are especially close and coarse on the incurved exterior margins. The eyes are situated on large rounded swellings of the cheeks, but

their surfaces are rubbed off. The facial suture is well marked, but as the posterior angles of the shield are broken off, it is impossible to say whether it ran out exactly at that angle or a little in front of it.

The Thorax is very indistinctly trilobed, and consists of thirteen segments, all of which are more or less tuberculose along a transverse rib on the posterior half of each segment. There are about seven or eight tubercles on the tergal portion of each segment and several smaller ones on the pleuræ. The tergal portion is smooth and very finely pitted, but the anterior portion of each pleura is coarsely granulated, resembling the granulations on the margins of the free cheeks. The tubercles are irregularly placed. The length of the thorax is rather more than four inches.

Pygidium.—Six segments only remain, each has about ten small tubercles on the tergal part and five or six on each pleura. The surface is smooth, except towards the margin where there are scattered granules. The margin itself is incurved and coarsely granulated like that of the cheeks. Its length may have been about an inch and a-half.

This species very closely resembles, and is perhaps identical with *Homalonotus Herschellii* (Murchison), from S. Africa, described and figured by Mr. Salter (Trans. Geol. Soc. 2nd Series, Vol. VII., p. 215, pl. 24, figs. 1-7). The differences appear to be that our specimen is broader in proportion and the thoracic segments are flatter and with more tubercles. However, until the rostral and caudal portions are known it is impossible to give a decided opinion on this point. At any rate it belongs to a group highly characteristic of the Lower Devonian.